

06C63-2850

23 SEP 1963

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT : Coordinated Release of Intelligence
to Congress

REFERENCE : Legislative Counsel Memorandum
of 26 June 1963

1. This memorandum constitutes a recommendation to the Director concerning proposals made by the Legislative Counsel in the reference memorandum.

2. There are certain questions raised by these proposals which I think should be carefully considered before proceeding with their implementation:

a. Review of other agencies' testimony by CIA may raise the question of reciprocity. That is, the Director's own testimony might have to be coordinated in advance and subsequently reviewed for unclassified release.

b. CIA review of testimony, which in many cases would include "departmental intelligence," might be interpreted by other agencies as an attempt to control their testimony.

c. Congressional committees might likewise take a hostile view of the screening of other officials' testimony, conjuring up the spectre of an all-powerful and insufficiently-monitored CIA.

3. Assuming that these questions can be disposed of--and they involve judgments outside the competence of the Directorate of Intelligence--an implementing procedure will have to be set up. This procedure would involve the action office in considerable responsibility for consistency and accuracy covering a volume of testimony. It would have to be exercised on short notice, with overriding priority and at a fairly high level. This responsibility would gradually become more complex as a body of reviewed

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testimony accumulated, particularly during the "briefing season" when various congressional groups require "posture briefings" by witnesses from Executive Departments.

4. For these reasons, the responsibility should be in the hands of a senior intelligence officer capable of calling on support from whatever component of the Agency is required by the substance and volume of the testimony to be reviewed. To accomplish the necessary review, negotiate with the several agencies, and maintain the continuity of files of testimony, estimates, and other intelligence materials would require at a minimum one full-time senior professional officer and one clerical assistant.

5. Since the intelligence content of congressional testimony ranges far beyond the substance of any specific intelligence issuance, such as a National Intelligence Estimate, and frequently involves the security of sources and collection methods, the review responsibility should not rest on an individual office, such as ONE, but on the staff of the Directorate of Intelligence or (preferably, in my view) the Office of the Director of Central Intelligence.


(RAY S. CLINE
Deputy Director (Intelligence)

O/DD/I:mjm:20 Sept 63

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